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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/696,443

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EXAMINER

WINTER, JOHN M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3685

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/696,443	Applicant(s) GROBMAN, STEVEN L.	
	Examiner JOHN M. WINTER	Art Unit 3685	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 July 2009.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 10-17, 35-41 and 43-62 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2-8, 10-17, 35-41 and 43-62 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgements

1. The Applicants amendment filed on July 7, 2009 is hereby acknowledged, Claims 2-8, 10-17, 35-41 and 43-62 remain pending .

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to the pending claim have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 2, 14, 35, 43, 47, 51 and 59 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. These claims contain the term “ a protocol substantially in compliance with the Kerberos protocol” the claim language fails to impose any limitation upon the claimed invention and is therefore indefinite.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 2-8, 10-17, 35-41 and 43-62 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Medvinsky et al. (US Patent 2003/0093694) in view of Sirbu et al (US Patent 5,809,144) and further in view of Howard et al. (US Patent 6,678,731).

4. As per claims 7, 8, 13, 17, 40-41, 46, 52, 56, 58 and 62

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses a method of generating a service ticket for a requested

Service comprising:

receiving by a granting service of a computing device, the computing device being

different and distinct from a client, a request for a Service Ticket from the client;

(Paragraph 39 and 41)

Medvinsky et al. ('694) does not explicitly disclose the the granting service, determining

if that the requested service is provided by a plurality of servers; and the granting service

generating a session key; for each providing server, encrypting the session key with a

secret key associated with each respective server; creating a Service Ticket that includes

the encrypted session keys for the plurality of providing servers;

Howard et al. ('731) discloses the granting service, determining if that the requested

service is provided by a plurality of servers; (column 3, lines 16-36 – access granted to

multiple web servers) and the granting service generating a session key; for each

providing server, (column 7, lines 48-56) encrypting the session key with a secret key

associated with each respective server; creating a Service Ticket that includes the encrypted session keys for the plurality of providing servers; (Column 7, lines 10-15 – data is encrypted, column 7, lines 48-67 – generation of the ticket; Column 9, lines 66 – column 10 line 14 – embodiment where each server has unique value in the ticket. (i.e. key associated with each server). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the Medvinsky et al. ('694) with the Howard et al. ('731) method in order to allow the client to utilize secure applications via ticket.

Medvinsky et al. ('694) does not explicitly disclose transmitting the service ticket to the client, Sirbu et al.('1443), discloses transmitting the service ticket to the client (Figure 4). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the Medvinsky et al. ('694) with the Sirbu et al. ('144) method in order to allow the client to utilize the ticket; furthermore the combination of these elements does not alter their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention..

In regard to claim 8 the Examiner notes that the term “cipher text” is equivalent to the “session key”.

Applicant(s) are reminded that optional or conditional elements do not narrow the claims because they can always be omitted. See e.g. MPEP §2106 II C: “Language that suggest or makes optional but does not require steps to be performed or does not limit a claim to a particular structure does not limit the scope of a claim or claim limitation. [Emphasis in

original.] " As a matter of linguistic precision, optional elements do not narrow the claim because they can always be omitted.

5. As per claims 2, 10, 14, 35, 43, 47, 51 and 59

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 7, further including:

a granting service (Abstract, paragraph 28)

generating a Ticket-Granting-Ticketing utilizing a protocol substantially in compliance with the Kerberos protocol; and wherein receiving a request for a Service Ticket from a client further includes receiving the Ticket-Granting-Ticket from the client. (Abstract Figure 4)

6. As per claim 3 and 36,

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 7,

wherein upon the granting service determining that the requested service is provided by a plurality of servers, the granting service further determining a number of the servers designated to provide the requested service and encrypting a cipher text with each of the session keys; wherein the determining includes: the granting service utilizing a database that maps a generic server name to a specific server name; and the granting service setting the numbers of servers designated to provide the service equal to the number of specific server names mapped to the generic server name that provides the requested service. (Figure 2).

As per claims 4 and 37,

7. Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 3,

Medvinsky et al. ('694) does not explicitly disclose wherein determining the number of servers designated to provide the requested service includes: utilizing a database that maps a generic server name to a specific server name; and setting the numbers of servers designated to provide the service equal to the number of specific server names mapped to the generic server name that provides the requested service. McCarty et al.('020), discloses wherein determining the number of servers designated to provide the requested service includes: utilizing a database that maps a generic server name to a specific server name; and setting the numbers of servers designated to provide the service equal to the number of specific server names mapped to the generic server name that provides the requested service. (Column 2, lines 42-50). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the Medvinsky et al. ('694) with the McCarty et al.('020) method in order to allow centralized control of access to servers; furthermore the combination of these elements does not alter their respective functions, and the combination would have yielded predictable results to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

As per claims 5 and 38, 49, 55 and 61

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 3, wherein the secret keys associated with each providing server are not synchronized across the providing servers.(Paragraph 45 – key is kept secret)

As per claims 6 and 39,

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 3, wherein the created Service Ticket includes:

a header that designates the Service Ticket as a format that includes multiple encrypted session keys, a field that expressly designates the number of encrypted session keys, an encrypted session key for each providing server, and the encrypted cipher

text.(Paragrpahs 137-145, in paragraph 138, target protocol is equivalent to “format”)

Examiner notes that stored data that is not functionally related to the memory in which it is stored (e.g format of the header data) it does not distinguish the claimed apparatus, method, and system from the prior art (*In re Gulack*, 217 USPQ 401 (Fed. Cir. 1983), *In re Ngai*, 70 USPQ2d (Fed. Cir. 2004), *In re Lowry*, 32 USPQ2d 1031 (Fed. Cir. 1994); MPEP 2106.01).

8. As per claims 11, 12, 44 and 45,

Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 13,

wherein the receiving server decrypting the encrypted session key includes: the receiving server determining a number of the plurality of encrypted session keys included within the received Service Ticket; for each encrypted session key, the receiving server decrypting the encrypted session key utilizing a secret key associated with the receiving server; and wherein the receiving server decrypting the cipher text utilizing the decrypted session key includes for each encrypted session key, the receiving server attempting to

decrypt the cipher text with the decrypted session key; if the cipher text is successfully decrypted, the receiving server providing the service to the client. (paragraphs 35-37)

9. As per claims 14,15, 48, 51, 54, 57 and 60
Medvinsky et al. ('694) discloses the method of claim 13,
wherein the receiving server receiving a Service Ticket includes:
a managing agent first receiving a Service Ticket;
the managing agent selecting the receiving server from a server pool having a plurality of
servers; routing the Service Ticket to the receiving server.(Paragraphs 28, 34-36 –KDC
server)

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to JOHN M. WINTER whose telephone number is (571)272-6713. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-6, 1st Fridays off. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Calvin Hewitt can be reached on (571) 272-6709. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JMW

/Calvin L Hewitt II/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3685